

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Madam Speaker, had I been here on September 7, 2007, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2669, the College Cost Reduction Act.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Newton Memorial Hospital on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. As it celebrates its diamond anniversary, I share the sentiments of all Newton area residents who are grateful for the integral role the hospital plays in their community.

The hospital was founded in 1932 out of the bequest of the estate of Thomas E. Murray. With his gift, as well as half a million in funds raised through a community financial campaign, the Newton Hospital Foundation began to plan construction of a hospital facility off of Route 94 in Newton, NJ. When it opened its doors that year, it had 40 acute care beds and 10 bassinets. That initial facility is now the Administration Building. The Sussex County community rapidly grew and the hospital grew with it. By 1951, the hospital constructed a new building, adding 60 more inpatient beds, a complete maternity suite with a newborn nursery of 20 beds, and expanded ancillary and diagnostic services.

And, as the community continued to grow, Newton Memorial Hospital kept pace, adding buildings, beds, and land. By the year 2000, Newton Memorial had opened the Sparta Health and Wellness Center to provide off-campus outpatient diagnostics and treatment, a state of the art emergency room and surgical suites, and more. In that year, 10,262 patients were admitted for inpatient and same-day surgery cases, including 750 births. And, in 2001, the hospital extended its care over the border into Pike County, Pennsylvania, with its Milford Health and Wellness Center.

Newton Memorial Hospital's continuing efforts to meet the needs of the community are shepherded by a superior staff, dedicated volunteers, and an active and capable Foundation. As a Sussex County resident, I understand how comforting it is to know that we are served by the Newton Memorial Hospital and I join the community in wishing them the best for another 75 years of superior care.

TRIBUTE TO ERIK NOWAK

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Erik Nowak of Bunker Hill, West Virginia, who was recently named U.S. Army National Guard Soldier of the Year.

Specialist Nowak had only been enlisted in the National Guard for just 16 months before he was selected by his squad leader to participate in his company's board competition. In just one day, he won the company's board as well as his battalion's board, a rare feat, especially for a newly enlisted soldier. From there he advanced to the state competition and then to the regional competition in Fort Pickett, Virginia.

He competed against seven soldiers on August 1, 2007 in phase one of the national competition in Fort Benning, Georgia. The first phase of competition consisted of a series of tests; a 5-mile run, weapons training, first aid, land navigational skills, combat water survival, and an obstacle course all completed within 40 hours on only one hour of sleep. In the second phase of the competition, later in Washington, DC, the seven guardsmen were interviewed by a board of enlisted officers, given a written test and were required to recite the soldier's creed.

On August 15, 2007 it was announced at the National Guard Conference that Specialist Nowak was selected among 350,000 troopers as the 2007 U.S. Army National Guard Soldier of the Year. He will advance to the Army's "Best Warrior" Competition at Fort Lee on September 30, 2007.

Specialist Nowak is currently a military police officer assigned to the 157th MP Company in Martinsburg. Prior to that, he was working as a substitute teacher at North Middle School where his met his wife, Krista. He is a graduate of Virginia Tech and a 1998 graduate of Musselman High School.

I am proud to honor Specialist Erik Nowak for representing the spirit of the Mountain State and the very best of the United States Army. In this time of international struggle, it is an honor to serve such an accomplished young soldier.

CONGRATULATING MS. SHERIDAN GODFREY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Sheridan Godfrey of Centennial, CO, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have

laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Godfrey to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Godfrey and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

REGARDING GENERAL PETRAEUS TESTIMONY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, the purpose of the President's escalation of the war in Iraq was to provide the Iraqi government with the space and security they needed to make real political progress. Unfortunately, it does not appear that meaningful progress has been made. General Petraeus has publicly admitted that the hope he once had that Iraqi leaders would take advantage of the U.S. troop surge efforts to minimize violence and make political gains "has not worked out as we had hoped." Despite the lack of progress, General Petraeus continues to want to stay the failed course. He has asked that the current levels of troops be kept in place until spring 2008.

Violence might be slightly diminishing in provinces where the presence of U.S. troops have been increased by the surge, but an increase of deaths and sectarian violence by car bombs and suicide bombers has increased in other provinces. The last 3 months have claimed the lives of 264 U.S. troops in Iraq, making it the deadliest summer of the war so far. Since the war began, 3,759 U.S. troops have been killed. More than 27,770 have been wounded in combat. In the 32nd Congressional District, 14 brave service members have given the ultimate sacrifice.

A number of recent reports on Iraq contain findings which are different than the testimony delivered today by General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker. A Government Accountability Office report on Iraq shows that the Iraqi government has failed to meet 15 of 18 benchmarks for success. A report by retired Marine GEN James Jones found that Iraq is still far from being able to take over its own security responsibilities. This report also indicates that the Iraqi Interior Ministry, which runs the security forces, is "dysfunctional,"

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and recommends that the national police force be disbanded.

I find these reports to be even more disturbing considering the overwhelming costs of the war. Congress has already appropriated nearly \$565 billion for the war in Iraq since March 2003, at a rate of approximately \$10 billion per month in Iraq. This has cost the taxpayers of the 32nd Congressional District an estimated \$1.1 billion. This money could have provided health care coverage for 447,203 individuals or college scholarships for 167,215 students.

The American people are frustrated and want a new direction in Iraq and an end to the war. According to a poll by the New York Times, 78 percent of Americans believe the U.S. should reduce its current level of troops or the withdrawal of all troops from Iraq. A USA Today poll shows that 6 percent of Americans would like for the U.S. to set a timetable to withdraw our forces from Iraq and stick to that timetable.

I agree. This grave situation requires a policy to secure and stabilize Iraq, one that constructively engages in diplomacy and partners with neighboring countries and the region to create a stable and peaceful nation, not a blank check to send more men and women into harm's way. We must resist establishment of permanent U.S. military bases in Iraq and train Iraqis to secure and run Iraq. Although I strongly disagree with the policies that continue to endanger our servicemen and women, I stand firmly behind them and look forward to their redeployment and safe return home.

MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION DIGITAL AND WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE OF Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007. H.R. 694 will further enhance the quality of service of the academic institutions of our nation by providing the technological advances in the quality and delivery of educational services. I support H.R. 694 because it secures a foundation of excellence for the minds of tomorrow by enriching the academic experience and insuring that more students have the opportunity to receive a quality education.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand before you today in support of a bill that will assist (1) historically black colleges and universities, (2) Hispanic-, Alaskan Native-, or Native Hawaiian-serving institutions; (3) tribally controlled colleges or universities; or (4) institutions with a sufficient enrollment of underprivileged students as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

Mr. Speaker, as a former member of the Science Committee and a strong supporter of minority institutions, I have been a champion for closing the digital divide as well as the math and science proficiency gap that exists between American youth and other youth around the world. This divide is especially

wide between minority and low income students. I believe that H.R. 694 is essential in decreasing the academic gap of the quality of education that is often defined by one's income or economic status and will further enhance competitiveness in a globalized economy.

The Information Technology Association of America says in a newly released study that the percentage of women working in technology fields has dropped almost 20 percent since 1996. This statistic is true even though the percentage of women in the overall workforce remained relatively unchanged during that time period. The reason for the drop is mainly the fact that administrative jobs in the tech industry are decreasing, and about a third of the women in the IT workforce serve in administrative positions. The ITAA analyzes information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS, Current Population Surveys to evaluate trends in the American workforce and compiles reports breaking down the data into percentages to determine the progression and regression of diversity. Previous ITAA diversity studies were conducted in 1998 and 2003. The reports also include a discussion of possible barriers to underrepresented groups and solutions for overcoming them.

Their study also showed that Hispanics are the most underrepresented racial group in IT jobs, comprising only 13 percent of the labor pool but only about 6.5 percent of IT workers. However, Hispanics represented less than 5.5 percent in 1996, so their numbers are slowly but steadily growing, even though the Hispanic population in the U.S. is the fastest-growing, and they constitute almost 13 percent of the overall workforce. African Americans are underrepresented by 22 percent, with their numbers actually dropping 1 percent since 1996, from 9 percent in 1996 to 8 percent in 2004. The percentage of African Americans in the overall workforce in 2004 is the same as it was in 1996, 10.7 percent. Interestingly, there are 6.6 percent fewer whites in the IT workforce than in the overall workforce. Asians continue to be significantly overrepresented in the IT workforce, by almost 200 percent.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will increase the number of persons from most minority groups either training or working in information technology, which over the years has been consistently low. Considering only those students who graduate from college, the percentages of Native Americans, African Americans, and Hispanics receiving a degree in computer or information science is actually higher than the percentage among non-Hispanic white males. However, this promising statistic is more than offset by the low number of minorities moving through the educational pipeline.

There are very few minority role models in information technology. Minority students are less likely to have computers at home or at school on which to gain early exposure to information technology. Students who attend historically black colleges and universities face limited computing facilities, compared with the average U.S. college or university. Thus, H.R. 694 will allow minority students the opportunity to utilize the technological advances necessary to compete in today's society.

H.R. 694 directs the Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology to: (1) establish an advisory council to advise on the best approaches toward maximum program participation by eligible institutions; and (2) ensure that

grant awards are made to all types of eligible institutions. This bill is a huge step in the right direction of narrowing the technology and science gap between minority students and others.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 694.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Madam Speaker, had I been in Washington on September 7, 2007, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1908, the Patent Reform Act of 2007.

HONORING MR. HAGOP BAHTIARIAN

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, last month, the Nation lost a great patriot when Mr. Hagop Bahtirian of Emerson, New Jersey, passed away. Mr. Bahtirian was born of Armenian descent in Keskin Maden near Ankara, Turkey in 1909.

In 1915, his father was murdered by Turkish officials, forcing his mother to flee with her children, adopting the Muslim faith and "Turkified" names to survive. In 1919, at the age of only 10, Mr. Bahtirian was placed in an orphanage in Constantinople with his brother. Not until 1922 was he able to escape to Marseilles, France, a survivor of the Armenian genocide.

In 1927, he came to America, living in the Bronx, New York and Englewood, New Jersey. There he worked as a jeweler and watch maker and raised a family with his wife, Gula; loving children, Rita and Berj; and later in life two grandsons. Mr. Bahtirian never forgot the life he'd been forced to live as a child in Turkey and was an active member of Armenian cultural groups dedicated to ensuring that the genocide would never be forgotten or repeated.

During World War II, he went to work for his adopted country, serving proudly as an Instructor at the Naval Air Warfare Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. There he specialized in the construction and repair of the famous Norden Bomb Sight.

Mr. Bahtirian lived a tremendous life and he bore witness to some of the most significant events of the 20th Century, from the Armenian Genocide to World War II. And he ensured that the lessons learned from those events would bear the fruits of peace for his children and grandchildren. Each year, as more and more survivors of the Armenian Genocide pass, let us be certain that their memory lives on and that we never see such a travesty again.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT ERIC
JOHNSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Lieutenant Eric Johnson of the Charleston Police Department, who was recently named 2007 Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the American Police Hall of Fame.

Lt. Johnson is being honored for an act of bravery while on duty in June 2006. Johnson reacted with extreme courage after he confronted a man who was suspected of shooting a woman, who then shot Johnson in the abdomen and face. Johnson reacted quickly by returning fire. After being severely wounded, Lt. Johnson neutralized the suspect and despite his injuries, he began searching for his partner who had gone missing.

The Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award is the most prestigious award given out by the American Police Hall of Fame. Lt. Johnson was chosen among hundreds of applicants from all over the United States. He is also the recipient of the Silver Star, an award for officers who place their lives in danger during the call of duty. Along with the acceptance of his award, Lt. Johnson's name will be on permanent display at the American Police Hall of Fame in Titusville, Florida.

Lt. Johnson truly went above and beyond the call of duty for his quick thinking and courage under fire; however, he responded to his heroism status with humility, a testament to his character. He is currently a shift commander and mentors less experienced officers.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Lieutenant Eric Johnson for acts of valor and bravery. It is an honor to serve brave men like Lieutenant Eric Johnson who put their lives at risk every day to protect others.

CONGRATULATING MR. ANDREW
GONZALEZ

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Andrew Gonzalez, of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Gonzalez to gain a greater un-

derstanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Gonzalez and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, on this sixth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, we, as a nation, honor the memories of the nearly 3,000 Americans who were killed on that tragic day. However, honoring their memories requires more of us than simply remembering and celebrating the lives of the victims of those horrific acts of violence. To truly honor their memories we, as a nation, must recommit ourselves to ensuring that such acts never happen again.

The House of Representatives stepped up to meet this challenge by passing a sweeping security bill within the first 100 hours of the new Congress and ushering it into law on August 3, 2007. This 9/11 bill finally enacts the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission 2½ years after they were made and 6 years after the terrorist attacks. This comprehensive legislation is long overdue but will make our Nation stronger, our cities and towns more secure, and our families safer.

Six years after the attacks of September 11, America's coastal cities are still dangerously vulnerable to a devastating attack. A nuclear weapon smuggled into the port of a large U.S. city could kill millions. However, only 5 percent of U.S.-bound containers are scanned before they leave overseas ports. The 9/11 bill makes millions of Americans safer by requiring that 100 percent of U.S.-bound seaborne containers are scanned before leaving foreign ports within 5 years.

Six years after the attacks on September 11, millions of American air travelers remain at risk because almost 3 million tons of air cargo that is transported each year on passenger airplanes remains unscreened. This is outrageous. The 9/11 bill ensures better protection for American families by mandating that 100 percent of cargo on all aircrafts undergo screening within 3 years.

Six years after the attacks on September 11, it is shameful that most first responders across the country, including those in Los Angeles, still do not have the critical communications equipment necessary to do their jobs effectively. The 9/11 bill finally makes first responders a priority, ensuring that they get the interoperable communications equipment they require by creating a stand-alone grant program at the Department of Homeland Security, authorized at \$400 million a year.

A comprehensive approach to ensuring homeland security, the 9/11 bill takes many critical steps that are necessary to keep America more secure from terrorist attacks. These include:

Authorizing over \$4 billion to improve rail and mass transit security over the next 4 years;

Ensuring that high-risk areas receive adequate homeland security funding;

Aggressively preventing terrorist travel; Adequately funding important programs that prevent terrorists from acquiring WMD; Better protecting our critical infrastructure and;

Strengthening intelligence and information sharing with local law enforcement.

The 9/11 bill is one of the most important pieces of legislation enacted by the new Congress. Long overdue, this bill better protects America from the threat of terrorism by finally enacting the recommendations made by the bipartisan 9/11 Commission a full 2½ years after they were issued. Now, Congress owes it to the American people to perform strong oversight over the Department of Homeland Security to make certain that it implements the bill's critical provisions. On this anniversary of the September 11 attacks, the American people have the commitment of the new Congress to take whatever steps necessary to further protect our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE LONG ISLAND
BLUE DEMONS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Long Island Blue Demons for their 6-0 win in the 2007 Babe Ruth World Series tournament on August 24. The Blue Demons are comprised of players from the Merrick PAL, which is located in the 3rd Congressional District on Long Island.

The Blue Demons' win is of particular significance. This is the first time that a Long Island team has won the age 13-15 bracket. I want to applaud the Demons' athleticism and dedication to our national pastime.

These players worked hard all season. To advance to the World Series in Andalusia, Alabama, they had to win the State championship in Queens and the regional championships in Pennsylvania—which they did. They won 18 tournament games in a row, including a 6-0 victory in the championship game over a team from Henderson, Kentucky, on August 24.

This win has been more than just an athletic victory for the Blue Demons. These players from Long Island had the opportunity to stay with host families in the gracious Alabama town of Andalusia, where they warmed the hearts of their hosts with their positive attitudes and dedication to our great American pastime.

I am proud that the Blue Demons had such a rewarding experience and I again congratulate them on their World Series victory.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Madam Speaker, had I been present on Monday, September 10, 2007, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 257.

TRIBUTE TO GANTT'S
EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Gantt's Excavation and Construction of Martinsburg, West Virginia; a recent recipient of the 2007 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Defense Employer Support Freedom Award honors businesses and organizations for their support of their employees who are enlisted in the National Guard and Reserves. Gantt's Excavation and Construction was among 15 honorees from across the Nation to receive the prestigious award. These employers have gone far above the required laws to accommodate their employees who must fulfill their military duties that arise throughout times of national need. They must often fulfill weekend and summer training, possible deployments and contingency operations.

I am proud to highlight the accomplishments of Gantt's Excavation and Construction, who represents the best of America's small businesses for its patriotism and dedication to our Nation's Armed Services. The business was established 35 years ago by Frederick Gantt and is currently operated by his three children, Daniel Gantt, Eric Gantt, and Janesa Smith. Janesa's husband, Tim Smith of the West Virginia Army National Guard of Wheeling recently returned home from a deployment to Iraq on July 27, 2007, and is employed by Gantt's Excavation and Construction. The business is located in Inwood, West Virginia, where they employ a staff of 65.

Madam Speaker, in this time of national sacrifice when the men and women of our Nation's armed services are being called to duty, it is an honor to recognize the Gantt family and Gantt's Excavation and Construction who have helped our enlisted men and women succeed both on the job and in the military.

CONGRATULATING MS. MAGGIE
HECKENDORF

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Maggie Heckendorf of Cherry Hills Village, CO, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Heckendorf to gain a greater

understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Heckendorf and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO COL. RAIMUND
WINZER, RETIRED, USAR

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Lt. Col. Raimund Winzer for his long and faithful military service to the United States of America. Lt. Col. Winzer honorably retired from service in the United States Army Reserve. After federal military retirement, Lt. Col. Winzer volunteered for the Governor of Michigan's National Security Task Force where his continuing contributions to national security and military administration earned him promotion to the rank of colonel. Col. Winzer retired from the Midland Public Schools where he was a teacher of the German language. He won the accolades of his students and their progeny for his unique, self-developed, German-language teaching methodology. Col. Winzer is the epitome of the citizen-soldier that has made major contributions to the defense of the United States of America.

SEPTEMBER 11TH MEMORIAL
SERVICE IN FAIRVIEW, NJ

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the members of the Fairview, New Jersey community who perished at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Roko Camaj, Danny A. Correa, Christian DeSimone, Jeremy Glick, James Ladley, and Diane Lipari will always have a special place in the hearts and prayers of Fairview Borough residents. These individuals will be missed, along with the other sons and daughters of New Jersey who died on that fateful day.

However, September 11th is not only a day for mourning. It is also a day on which we remember the heroism of so many Americans who responded to the call for help. Fifty-five of Fairview's police, fire, and emergency response personnel assisted at Ground Zero in the rescue and recovery efforts and in the treatment and triage of the injured. These individuals were an important part of the effort to save as many lives as possible after the terrorist attacks. Our entire Nation acknowledges and honors their selflessness.

This evening's 9/11 Memorial Service at the American Legion, Post 365 located at 110 Anderson Avenue in Fairview rightfully commemorates Fairview's loved ones who were lost and commends our first responders for their heroism.

Our Nation must always remember those who were killed on September 11th, those who survived the attacks, those who saved

others' lives, and those who gave their lives for others. In keeping their memory alive, we remind ourselves of the terrible price we pay if we fail to remain vigilant against those who wish us harm.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, on Friday, September 7, 2007, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 860, 861, 862, 863, and 864 because I was leading a congressional delegation trip to conduct oversight in Iraq and to meet with U.S. military leadership and American men and women in uniform who are currently serving in theater.

Had I been present for rollcall 860, H. Res. 636 which provided for the consideration of H.R. 1908, Patent Reform Act of 2007, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 861, H. Res. 637 which provided for the consideration of conference report to accompany H.R. 2669, College Cost Reduction and Access Act, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 862, the Conferees Amendment to H.R. 1908, Patent Reform Act of 2007, I would have voted "yes."

Had I been present for rollcall 863, final passage of H.R. 1908, Patent Reform Act of 2007, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 864, on agreeing to the Conference Report to H.R. 2669, College Cost Reduction Act of 2007, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Madam Speaker, had I been present on Monday, September 10, 2007, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 643.

CONGRATULATING MR. ANDREW
HOOD

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Andrew Hood of Castle Rock, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more

than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Hood to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Hood and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KIDS WiSH ACT OF 2007

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would begin to address a gaping hole in our disaster management system. Since Hurricane Katrina, many improvements to our emergency management system have been made, but there is still much work to be done. Hurricane Katrina demonstrated that the current disaster management system in the United States is inadequately prepared to meet the needs of children. And there is still no national agency in the United States with a clear mandate to safeguard children before, during, and after disasters.

Children see, hear, and understand more than adults may expect. But children do not experience disasters the same way that adults do. In normal times, family, other caregivers, and community institutions like schools work together to keep children safe and help them learn and develop. During disasters, family members can be separated, schools and child care centers closed or destroyed, and children's routines disrupted. These sudden changes can frighten children. The physical differences between children and adults are clear: children are smaller and have different sleep, nutrition, and other needs. In shelters, hospitals and emergency service centers, these differences matter.

Congress must invest in creating effective local, state, and federal disaster response systems involving a healthy, adequately-funded, well-coordinated, and functional emergency medical services system. My bill, the KIDS WiSH Act, focuses on making sure the needs of children are addressed and met in emergency preparedness planning, and in response to and recovery from future domestic disasters.

The KIDS WiSH Act establishes a National Commission on Children and Disasters that is modeled after the 9/11 Commission. The Commission will examine, assess and report on the facts and causes relating to the needs of children during and after all hazards, disasters and emergencies, and Federal emergencies. It will also build upon investigations of other entities on children's needs during and after hazards, disasters, and emergencies. This would include reviewing findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other executive branch, Congressional or independent commissions, or non-governmental entities. The bill will also establish The National Resource Center on Children and Disas-

ters that would provide information to Federal, State, local and tribal governments, and non-governmental entities on issues in relation to the needs of children during and after all hazards, disasters, and emergencies.

The time to address children's needs in disasters is now . . . our Nation's children shouldn't have to wait any longer.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I join every American in remembering September 11 and the victims who so tragically lost their lives in an unspeakable act of violence. We all grieve with the families they left behind and are deeply grateful for the rescue workers and ordinary citizens that displayed extraordinary humanity and bravery.

We owe it to them to make our Nation and the world safer.

The new Democratic majority in Congress is bringing about effective change in the way our Nation confronts the threat of terror. The recent passage into law of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations was an important, though overdue, step to making our homeland more secure.

But those who lost their lives or put themselves in harm's way on 9/11 deserve more. The administration's ill-advised war in Iraq undermines a significant opportunity to bring Osama bin Laden and the real perpetrators to justice. It is my hope that we as a Congress will work together to reverse this course and refocus our efforts. We still have much work to do to recover from this tragedy, to protect our liberty, and to regain our credibility and stature in the eyes of the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was not present during rollcall votes Nos. 865–866 on September 10, 2007. I would like the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted: On rollcall vote No. 865 I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 866 I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNITION OF CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Constitution Week, September 17–23, 2007. The Congress, by joint resolution on February 29, 1952 designated September 17 as Citizenship Day, and on August 2, 1956, requested that the President

proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as Constitution Week. During Constitution Week, we honor our Nation's Constitution and encourage everyone to take the time to read and reflect on what the Constitution means to American citizens. It is a time when we can promote the ideals of freedom and opportunity throughout our Nation.

Today, I would like to particularly recognize the Augustin Clayton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Jonesboro, GA, for observing Constitution Week this year. Their nationalism and dedication are exemplary, and a model for all Americans. I hope that many other Federal, State, and local officials, as well as leaders of civic, social, and educational organizations, will follow the lead of the Augustin Clayton Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution and conduct ceremonies and other programs to celebrate our Constitution this coming Constitution Week.

TAIWAN

HON. LUIS G. FORTUÑO

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. FORTUÑO. Madam Speaker, Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian submitted an application for Taiwan's U.N. membership to the United Nations on July 19, and it was immediately rejected by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on the basis of United Nations Resolution 2758, which affirmed U.N. support for the "one China" policy.

U.N.'s action regarding Taiwan's application was unprecedented and contrary to U.N. procedures. U.N. rules empower only the Security Council and the General Assembly with the authority to discuss and decide on U.N. membership applications. As such the U.N. Secretariat does not have the discretion or authority to summarily reject Taiwan's application.

Madam Speaker, I believe firmly that the issue of Taiwan's application should be raised and debated by U.N. members. And I wish to add my voice to call for U.N. to go through the necessary process for reviewing Taiwan's application for membership.

CONGRATULATING MR. MATTHEW HORNBECKER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Matthew Hornbecker of Evergreen, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon

Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Hornbecker to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Hornbecker and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the anniversary of September 11, 2001. It was a day that our enemies had hoped to show America's weakness, but instead showed our enormous strength and our enduring commitment to the values on which this Nation was founded.

The tragedies that unfolded in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania on September 11 took the lives of nearly 3000 individuals, Americans and others. These men, women, and children were killed because they lived in a country where toleration, freedom, and compassion are guiding principles. Many of those lost were brave first-responders who entered burning buildings, selflessly placing the interest of strangers above their own. All those who were killed that day left voids in the hearts of their families and communities. But their memory and spirit continue to endure in us all, and reinforce our commitment to the freedoms and ideas for which they died.

Moreover, everyday since September 11, tens of thousands of Americans work tirelessly in our communities to prevent terrorist attacks from happening again. Our hospitals, fire departments, and law enforcement officials all have redefined their mission to protect, prepare, and respond as part of the War on Terror. Meanwhile, overseas the brave members of the American military and intelligence community continue to pursue and destroy terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

Mr. Speaker, September 11 was a defining day in the history of the United States. Although we lost many great Americans, our Nation united in a cause to honor their memory and win the long-term struggle against terrorism. And in this struggle, we will win while protecting the freedom and way of life for which our enemies fight us. We continue to honor the memory of those lost and we strive to do them justice.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION REPORTS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, it is fitting that we are pausing to honor the memory of those who died on that terrible day and to reaffirm our commitment to bring to justice those who

perpetrated these heinous acts. Today is also a time for us to remember that we can best honor those who perished by learning the right lessons from 9/11, including the heroes of United Flight 93 like Todd Beamer, whose actions that day prevented further loss of life in Washington, DC.

Over the last 6 years, we have made it harder for the reconstituted al Qaeda to mount a similar operation against the United States. And last month, the Congress passed and the President signed into law a bill (H.R. 1) that will implement the balance of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations. These are tangible achievements, but we must guard against the kind of complacency and false sense of security that prevailed before the attacks on our Nation.

Because al Qaeda's leadership—Osama bin Laden and Ayman Al Zawahiri—remains at large, America is still vulnerable to future al Qaeda attacks. Moreover, our involvement in Iraq has caused us to waste lives, resources, and time that should have been spent in finding and neutralizing bin Laden and Zawahiri, and dismantling the rest of their network. We know that our involvement in Iraq has made it harder for us to rally the world in the common struggle against al Qaeda and its murderous ideology. The sooner we disengage militarily from Iraq, the sooner we will be able to refocus ourselves and our allies on the larger and far more important struggle against bin Laden and those like him.

We must also do what is necessary to care for the first responders of 9/11—those who have developed debilitating illnesses as a result of their exposure to the multiple toxins unleashed in the aftermath of the attacks. I'm hopeful that a bill to provide for the long-term monitoring of affected first responders (H. Res. 128), offered by my colleague Representative CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, will be brought to the floor of the House for a vote very soon.

Finally, we must ensure that America does whatever is necessary to take care of the men and women of our armed forces who are engaged in the hunt for our terrorist enemies. Traumatic brain injury, life-changing physical wounds, and post-traumatic stress disorder are all conditions that are affecting veterans in record numbers. I'm gratified that this Congress has provided major funding increases to deal with the needs of the veterans, but we must do more than provide one-year increases in funding—we need to structurally increase the VA health care budget to cover these injuries and their treatment throughout the expected lifetimes of these veterans. To do less dishonors them and our Nation.

Madam Speaker, as we mark this solemn day, let us remember that so long as we remain united as a people, we will weather this struggle successfully—just as we weathered the fights against fascism and communism in the last century.

HONORING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA FEDERATION OF LABOR AFL-CIO

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, It is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most

devoted and proficient workers in northwest Indiana. The Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor AFL-CIO will recognize several individuals for their dedication during the 33rd Annual Community Awards reception to be held at the Duneland Falls Banquet Center in Chesterton, Indiana, on Friday, September 21, 2007. These individuals, in addition to the other Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor members who have served northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long period of time, are the epitome of the ideal American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hardworking.

At this year's event, several individuals will receive special recognition. The Honorable Duane Cheney, our distinguished State representative who recently retired, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. Mr. Cheney is being honored for his many years of service and his many contributions to the well-being of workers throughout northwest Indiana.

Mrs. Cindy Carlson, retired secretary of Sub-District 5 of District 7 for the United Steelworkers and member of Local Union #3657, will receive the Service to Labor Award for assisting organized labor to improve the quality of life for workers in northwest Indiana.

As selected by the executive board, Mr. Rudy Sutton, president of R.V. Sutton, Inc., will be presented with this year's Union Label Award for his unselfish devotion to the labor movement through all the endeavors of his company.

Mr. Jeremy Rivas of Bricklayers Local #4 will accept the Community Service Award for exemplary service to the community and the enhancement of the quality of life for all.

Mr. Joseph Kasper of Boilermakers #374 will receive the George Meany Scout Award, an honor bestowed upon him by the Boy Scouts of America.

In memoriam, the late Jim Hornak, retiree of Carpenters Local # 1046, will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The exceptional service he so generously provided to the community deserves our admiration and respect. His dedication and commitment to his community is representative of the values we cherish in northwest Indiana.

For the 2007 Business Sector Awards, Mr. Dan Sajikowski, business unit leader at the BP Refinery in Whiting, Indiana, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. The years of hard work he has put forth are a true inspiration to all. Mr. Rex Mudge, vice president of human resources for Strack & Van Til, is this year's recipient of the Retail/Wholesale Sector Award, and Arcelor Mittal USA, will be recognized with the Building Trades Sector Award. Another of our distinguished State representatives, the Honorable Charlie Brown, will be honored with this year's Service Sector Award, and Mr. Mark Oprisko, councilman for the city of Portage, will be honored with the Industrial Sector Award. Finally, Mr. Bill Kelly, president of the East Chicago Federation of Teachers #511, will be recognized for his efforts with the Public Employees Sector Award.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These individuals are all outstanding examples of these qualities. They have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and self-sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and exemplary

citizens, in addition to all of the hardworking union men and women in America. They have shown commitment and courage toward their pursuits, and I am proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

CONTINUING FUNDING FOR GULF COAST KATRINA RELIEF RECOVERY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, our Nation's responsibility to the people of the gulf coast has not ended since Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast region 2 years ago. Since then, volunteers, first responders, and officials from across the Nation have boldly confronted the challenges of rebuilding damaged areas by dedicating their time and effort to help restore these vibrant communities. However, the challenges the region continues to face are far from over and it is clear that this administration has fallen dramatically short of fulfilling the promises made to the people of the gulf coast.

Two years ago, despite multiple warnings of Katrina's severity and the approaching devastation that would result if residents of the gulf coast were not evacuated, the ill-prepared Bush administration failed to offer the necessary support to the hundreds of thousands of people in the storm's path. Vulnerable populations without the economic means or available transportation to evacuate were left with no choice but to weather the storm in their homes or shelters. After the storm ended, at least 1,800 people lost their lives in five States; more than 1 million people were displaced from their homes; hundreds of thousands of homes, schools, and businesses were destroyed; and countless communities and habitats were uprooted.

Despite the outpouring of congressional support for reconstruction and disaster assistance, the administration has poorly managed the disbursement of funds and failed to ensure that home and business owners receive the aid they need. Of the \$94.8 billion that Congress appropriated in response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, almost half has been spent by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on debris removal and temporary housing assistance. Only \$3.4 billion has been spent on permanent infrastructure repairs, and FEMA's consistent underestimation of the necessary costs associated with permanent rebuilding has resulted in billions of dollars of aid being tied up after costs exceed FEMA's initial estimates. As a result of the inadequate management and inefficient use of funds, thousands of residents have not returned to their homes. According to the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, 107,000 gulf residents displaced by Katrina are still in FEMA-provided temporary housing.

The administration could have chosen to overcome its original failure with a concerted commitment to rebuild the gulf coast and ensure that the victims of this disaster receive the assistance they need. Instead, over the last 2 years, they have chosen to ignore these problems and the needs of the gulf coast residents. The administration's continued indiffer-

ence to the devastation caused by Katrina has prevented these residents from rebuilding to their communities and tackling the lingering poverty in the region. This administration's failures have been compounded with time, continuing to postpone the complete restoration of the gulf coast.

Madam Speaker, today, we must recommit ourselves, at all levels of government, to rebuild the gulf coast in a responsible and comprehensive way. As we honor those who lost their lives during Hurricane Katrina, we cannot allow this important work to be pushed to side any longer.

HONORING GEORGE BURROWS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Burrows, Sr. whose hard work and determination have resulted in the revitalization of the Sistrunk Boulevard corridor in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. This once-blighted neighborhood is now the pride of Ft. Lauderdale's African-American community.

Born in 1926, George Burrows grew up in the segregated Jim Crow south. He was one of 14 children raised by his Bahamian immigrant parents. After serving in the Marines during World War II, George returned to Ft. Lauderdale. Using the G.I. Bill, he attended Bethune-Cookman College where, after sampling several vocational courses, he decided to study electronics. In 1948, he earned his Associate of Arts degree in electronics, and soon after received his state certification as a licensed master electrician.

Madam Speaker, with only electrical wire, government-issued tools, and a used bicycle with front and rear baskets, George Burrows embarked on a career that has spanned more than five decades. He fought bravely against a segregated system that limited his services to Colored Town and went on to great success in the electrical business. The day before his alma mater Dillard High School was to play an important football game, its field still had no lights. George Burrows came to the rescue, installing lights on the field and saving the day.

One of his proudest accomplishments is his longtime involvement with the Black Chamber of Commerce, formerly the Negro Chamber of Commerce. George's work with the Chamber led to minority businesses obtaining contracts with the Hollywood-Ft. Lauderdale International Airport and Port Everglades. George and his devoted wife of more than 50 years, Agnes, have raised four children, all of whom are graduates of historically black colleges. One admirer of his business, Burrows Electric, recently called him "number one in the business" and "a consummate professional."

Madam Speaker, even Ft. Lauderdale City Commissioner Carlton Moore, who grew up in the Sistrunk Boulevard district, lauded George Burrows' achievement as a role model in the community. Commissioner Moore has noted that George "created a business that provided business opportunities to those who were locked out by the system." George Burrows' advice to aspiring entrepreneurs is to "get an

education." With an education, he says, "one can do anything they want in the field they choose." George Burrows is living proof of that. We all owe this great man an enormous debt of gratitude for what he has done to make his neighborhood, his city, and our world a better place. He is truly someone of whom we can all be very proud.

CONGRATULATING MS. KELSEY HOWE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Kelsey Howe of Highlands Ranch, CO, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Howe to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Howe and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

OWEN LOVEJOY PRINCETON POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2825, designating the post office at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, IL as the Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building.

Owen Lovejoy, born in Albion, ME, and known for his passionate public service, fought for years for the abolition of slavery. At the root of this passion was the memory of his brother Elijah, Presbyterian minister and editor of an abolitionist press. Elijah was murdered by a mob angered by his anti-slavery writings.

Owen Lovejoy sought an end to slavery, opening his home to runaway slaves, seeking political office in order to push for change, and serving in the Union Army during the American Civil War. An acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, Lovejoy served as a platform speaker in support of Lincoln in his famous debates with Stephen Douglas.

Our country owes much to individuals like Owen Lovejoy, who, believing in his heart that "all men are created equal," sought an end to

slavery. He never sacrificed what he felt was important, and he dedicated his life selflessly to the greater interests of his country.

It is an honor for me to speak in support of this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 2825 honoring a pioneer and a true public servant.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember one of our Nation's darkest days, and one of its finest hours.

None of us will ever forget the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Nor will we ever forget the images of firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, and other first responders placing themselves in harm's way at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. We will never forget the passengers of United Flight 93, whose heroism may well have saved the United States Capitol. We will never forget the way this Nation joined in prayer and determination in the days which followed. And we will never forget the outpouring of support from our friends throughout the world.

In my home in western North Carolina, young men and women answered the challenge of a nation thrown suddenly into war, as new volunteers signed up for the Armed Forces, and reservists and Guardsmen readied for deployment. In the six years which followed, these brave citizens and their families have sacrificed through multiple deployments and hazardous service in Afghanistan, Iraq, and throughout the world. Since that time, many have been wounded, and six young men from my district have made the ultimate sacrifice. The thoughts and prayers of a grateful nation will always be with them and their families.

In the years since that tragic September day, our Nation has stepped up its vigilance at home and abroad. I am proud of the efforts of our local law enforcement officials to improve training and expertise in our communities to identify potential threats and prevent any future attacks. I would also like to recognize all of those who stand guard in our Nation's intelligence and Federal law enforcement communities, and all Americans serving abroad to reduce the conditions that breed terrorism and to increase hope in distant lands.

This Congress has taken the important steps of implementing the recommendations of the 9–11 Commission and enhancing homeland security efforts, however there is still work to be done. Our ports remain vulnerable, and our borders remain porous. Hurricane Katrina exposed serious problems with our Nation's disaster response mechanisms, and it is unclear how far we have come in fixing those problems. I am committed to working with my colleagues to address these problems and ensure the safety of all Americans.

So today we remember, as we look forward. I join with all my colleagues in today in honoring the memory of those who lost their lives on September 11th, remembering those who have sacrificed defending our Nation since

that day, and praying for those who continue to serve our Nation today.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. LUIS G. FORTUÑO

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. FORTUÑO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sorrow to the families and friends of the nearly 3,000 men and women who perished in the terrorist attacks on September 11th 2001. On this day six years ago, our great country was attacked. Yet, the terrorists were not seeking our money or our land. They were out to destroy what we stand for: freedom, democracy, and the American dream. It seems we have come a long way since that dreadful September morning; yet, on a daily basis, we live with the memory of all those who passed away.

Today, Americans remember the courage and bravery we witnessed from the countless civilians, police officers and firefighters who fought the terrorists and ran into the destroyed buildings while many others would have run from them. We will never forget these heroes for giving their lives so they may save the lives of others and the freedom of all.

I join my fellow Members of Congress, not as a Republican or a Democrat, but as a proud American, in expressing our sincere gratitude to those who showed us the true spirit of our Nation.

May God bless them and continue to bless our men and women overseas who fight for the principles we stood for.

CONGRATULATING MR. DAVID JOHNSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. David Johnson of Aurora, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956; the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Johnson to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Johnson and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, due to illness I missed the two votes on Monday, September 10, 2007. I would have voted as follows: Passage of H. Res. 257, supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month—"yes"; Passage of H. Res. 643, 9/11 Commemoration—"yes."

SUPPORT FOR ARMENIAN GENOCIDE RESOLUTION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of passage of H. Res. 106, the Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide Resolution.

It is long past time for the United States to officially recognize the massacre of one and a half million Armenians early in the 20th century for what it undeniably was: genocide.

Year, after year, after year, I've been proud to cosponsor the Armenian Genocide resolution. Last year, over 150 House members cosponsored this important legislation to properly recognize the Armenian Genocide. This year, the resolution has already received 226 cosponsorships, a majority of the Members of the House. This impressive number reflects the broad bipartisan support for an official recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

Countries all around the world have adopted similar resolutions to ensure that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people are properly recognized as acts of Genocide. Canada, France, Switzerland, Greece, and Poland all have passed resolutions affirming the recognition of the Genocide. Properly recognizing the Armenian Genocide here in America is essential to ensure that all past genocides are never forgotten and all future atrocities are never permitted.

The writer Milan Kundera once wrote that "The struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting."

There are those that would deny the Armenian Genocide, just as there are those that deny the reality of the Nazi Holocaust. In commemorating the Armenian Genocide as we will do with this Resolution, we collectively engage in that struggle of memory against forgetting. The dangers of forgetting are real—as Adolph Hitler plotted the Holocaust, he was emboldened by the failure of the international community to note the first genocide of the 20th century, writing in 1939 "Who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?" But this resolution is not just intended as a remembrance of a dark past, but as a way of animating future policies with a commitment to prevent such things from ever happening again, as well as a step towards building a better future for the Armenian people and for all people.

I commend Representative SCHIFF for introducing this critical resolution, and again commit myself to work for its timely adoption.

RECOGNITION OF MS. SMITA N. SHAH, P.E.

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Smita N. Shah, P.E., a prominent Indian-American businesswoman, activist, and philanthropist, who was one of a select few to receive the prestigious 2007 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Over the years, I have had the honor to befriend this young woman and seen firsthand her good works and intelligence that makes her so worthy of this award.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor award is presented to influential leaders of various fields and ethnic backgrounds who have greatly contributed to American society. Established in 1986 by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, NECO, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to the heritage of those individuals that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic and extraordinary individual achievement. Past medalists include six U.S. Presidents as well as Nobel Prize winners and leaders of industry, education, the arts, sports and government.

As the daughter of two immigrants from India, Ms. Shah grew up in Chicago where she excelled as a student and is still remembered fondly as an active member of her community. Through her constant study and hard work she earned an undergraduate degree from Northwestern University. Ms. Shah continued her education when she received a masters of science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed an advanced management program at Oxford. Upon completion of school, she started her own engineering firm. Though the firm started off with just 3 employees, it has since expanded to 55 in just 9 years.

Ms. Shah has also set herself apart through her commitment to public service, which started with an internship in the Office of the Chief of Staff to the President of the United States in the summer of 1994 and continued with her service as a member of the White House advance team from 1993 to 2001. She went on

to become a member of the White House Millennium Council to Save America's Treasures from 1998 to 2001. In 1996, she was the youngest delegate to the Democratic National Committee, DNC, from the State of Illinois and participated in the 2004 DNC as well.

In Chicago, because of her strong belief in community building, Ms. Shah goes out of her way to work with organizations that help to promote ethnic diversity. She serves as chair of the Delhi-Chicago Committee, a part of the city of Chicago's Sister Cities International Program, where she works to expand relations between Chicago and New Delhi, helping to preserve and encourage her own cultural ties to India. In 2004, Senator BARBARA BOXER presented Ms. Shah with a Women Making History Award for her dedication to her community, to her culture, and to the preservation of American ideals.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Shah is an asset to the United States and her efforts are deserving of this prestigious award. Ms. Shah fully embodies the commitment and values that the Ellis Island Medal of Honor represents. It is an honor for me to recognize this great American and a good friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ. Madam Speaker, on Friday, September 7, 2007, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 861: "yes" on agreeing to the resolution.

(2) Rollcall No. 864: "yes" on agreeing to the conference report.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE REPORTING

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on September 10, 2007, I was granted a leave of absence to attend to personal business. In error, the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reported that I was granted a leave of absence from September 10, 2007 through September 21, 2007. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD should have reported September 10, 2007 as my only day of leave.

CONGRATULATING MR. WILLIAM JOHNSON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. William Johnson of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Johnson to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Johnson and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.